

fair share for roadway improvements for better base access and to lessen traffic congestion.

As chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee, I continue working to secure forward-looking investments to expand Travis and Beale, while ensuring that the Air Force remains a good neighbor. I plan to make these Defense Access Road designations a major priority for the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2023.

Travis and Beale Air Force Bases and the surrounding areas must have the world-class infrastructure needed to carry out their mission. The legislation I introduce today would ensure just that.

BIOECONOMY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2022

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4521, The America Competes Act of 2022. This legislation is the largest investment in our nation's manufacturing industries and reaffirms our reputation as a global leader across multiple industries. I am delighted to have two of my bills, H.R. 2774—the Green Climate Fund Authorization Act and H.R. 3036—the Secure E-Waste Export and Recycling Act (SEERA), included as part of this historic American-made legislative package to support and secure our technologies, research, and development at home and strengthen our collaboration on projects abroad.

Communities of color, indigenous people, and low-income households in the United States and across the world are disproportionately impacted by climate change and often live near sources of pollution. It is our moral obligation to uplift these frontline communities. To effectively combat climate change, we must reaffirm our nation's commitment to work with other countries to advance environmental justice. The Green Climate Fund, established within the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, achieves this by helping economically developing countries limit or reduce their greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change.

During the prior Presidential administration, our nation did not fulfill the pledge we made on the world stage to provide funding to the Green Climate Fund. As an indispensable player in financing global endeavors that achieve the Paris Agreement, we must remedy this and continue to promote environmental justice.

The Green Climate Fund strengthens the economies of neighboring countries while also benefitting our nation's economy as we tackle climate change. The Tenth Report released by the Green Climate Fund, noted that 190 projects advancing climate justice around the world had been approved. These projects are helping 127 countries, including 31 in Latin America and the Caribbean. They are expected to reduce a total of 1.9 billion tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of greenhouse gas emissions and reach 197 million direct and 399 million indirect beneficiaries. The Green Climate Fund benefits the American economy

because it helps deploy financial flows from the private sector to investment opportunities that promote sustainable development.

The United Nations Children's Fund reported last year that about one billion children are at an extremely high risk of enduring the impacts of the climate crisis. Climate change threatens their nutrition, health, education, and development. We must increase funding for the Green Climate Fund because future generations of children are counting on us to act so that they can live in a secure world.

SEERA also combats climate change by addressing electronic waste (e-waste) management in the United States. It enhances our national security, advances environmental justice, and bolsters our economy by stopping the flow of e-waste to China and requiring domestic recycling of all untested and non-working electronics, which promotes the creation of thousands of new jobs in the United States.

I urge my colleagues to support The America Competes Act of 2022.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE INCREDIBLE WORK OF RECYCLE MY BATTERY

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 4, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the incredible work being done by Recycle My Battery, a non-profit organization whose mission is to increase sustainable battery disposal helping preserve the environment and fight climate change. Since their founding, Recycle My Battery has collected and recycled more than 150,000 used batteries as well as educated more than 1.5 million people on how they can properly recycle batteries, and why that process is so crucial to our communities and the long-term health of our planet.

They have been able to do this by educating our community on the correct and sustainable ways to recycle and dispose of batteries as well as placing battery recycling bins in easy to access places like schools, libraries, and local businesses. Shyam Suhas Kandala, a twelve-year-old from Chesterfield, New Jersey leads the New Jersey chapter of Recycle My Battery. I applaud Shyam and the more than thirty other New Jersey youth who, even at such a young age, have identified an imperative issue and have answered the call to serve.

I commend Shyam and the rest of Recycle My Battery on the work they are doing to better our planet's health, and I encourage more of us to get directly involved in trying to make the world a better, safer, cleaner place. With climate change being one of the most pressing challenges of our time I encourage each of us to follow their example in being better caretakers of our planet.

HONORING THE NATIONAL LATINO PEACE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (NLPOA)

HON. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 4, 2022

Mrs. DEMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA), which has for 50 years provided opportunities to Latino peace officers throughout the United States. As the former Police Chief of Orlando, Florida and now in my role as U.S. Representative for Florida's 10th Congressional District, I would like to celebrate the NLPOA for supporting the engagement, rights, and training of Latino law enforcement officers across the country.

Founded in 1972 by Vicente Calderon of the California Highway Patrol and John Parraz of the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office, the National Latino Peace Officers Association was formed to address the unique challenges that impact Latino peace officers in American law enforcement agencies. The organization works tirelessly to recruit, mentor, and train qualified Latino peace officers.

As a result of their engagement with law enforcement offices, communities throughout the United States, and Latino peace officers in particular, the NLPOA has contributed to important reforms related to its founding mission. For instance, the organization obtained bilingual pay for officers in the California Highway Patrol, which convinced other California police agencies to do the same. Moreover, members of the organization's Santa Clara Chapter in 1977 were instrumental in requiring Santa Clara County to increase diversity in the hiring and promotional processes for the county's law enforcement officers. This action helped set a precedent for the promotion of diversity in police ranks, something now widely agreed upon as a priority.

As a former law enforcement officer and the first woman police chief of Orlando, I recognize the importance of having well-trained officers that reflect the communities they serve across the country. The work of the NLPOA has been extremely important in this effort.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition and thanks to the National Latino Peace Officers Association for 50 years of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALEXANDER CITY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 4, 2022

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of Alexander City, Alabama.

A part of Alabama's Third Congressional District, Alexander City, is located in Tallapoosa County. In 1698, Captain Thomas Welch marked out the Okfuskee Trail through what became Tallapoosa County. Trading stations near Flint Hill, Young's Ferry, and Kowaliga were established by the English settlers.